

application as follows:

**IN THE ELECTION/RESTRICTION:**

Applicant hereby elects the invention identified as Group I (Claims 1-14) in the Office Action for further prosecution, subject to a traverse of imposition of the restriction requirement, as set forth below under the "Remarks" heading.

**CONDITIONAL PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME**

If any extension of time for this response is required, applicant requests that this be considered a petition therefore. Please charge the required Petition fee to Deposit Account No. 03-1240.

**ADDITIONAL FEE**

Please charge any insufficiency of fees, or credit any excess to our Deposit Account No. 03-1240.

**REMARKS**

The Examiner has issued a Restriction Requirement, requiring that the applicant elect one of two groups of claims directed at distinct inventions for further prosecution in this application. Applicant hereby elects (with traverse) the invention of Group I on which claims 21-38 read.

Applicant respectfully traverses the imposition of the restriction requirement by the Examiner and points out that this current application is derived/based upon the PCT/JP00/02582, which was examined by the International Searching

copy of the enclosed International Search Report indicates that the examined application was determined to have a "unity of the invention". See box 3, entitled "lack of unity of invention" not being checked. Accordingly, the applicant requests that the current restriction requirement be withdrawn and all claims 1-24 be joined for further prosecution.

Applicant reserves the right to file a divisional application directed to the invention of Group II (Claims 39-40) at a later date.

Entry of this election and an early favorable action on the merits are respectfully requested.

<b>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING</b>	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as express mail # <u>ER 069161888 US</u> in an envelope addressed to:	
Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box DAC, United States Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, D.C. 20231.	
DATE:	<u>March 28, 2002</u>
NAME:	<u>Tammy Parubchenko</u>
SIGNATURE:	<u>[Signature]</u>

Respectfully submitted,

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